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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography of approximately 100 items, represents a continuing effort to identify statements dealing with field study methods and problems relevant for research in formal educational settings. The bibliography emphasizes, but is not limited to, contributions by anthropologists. A thoughtful perusal of this bibliography and a study of some of the resources identified here may do much to dispel the fieldwork "mystique." However, the process of transforming field notes and journals (the preferred anthropological terms) or data (the customary term among sociologists and educators) into a completed monograph remains elusive, at least to the extent that those who have completed successful field studies have been able to produce (or reveal) guidelines to assist others. (Author)

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FIELD STUDY METHODS FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCHERS:
A BIBLIOGRAPHY

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INTRODUCTION

This bibliography represents a continuing effort to identify statements dealing with field study methods and problems relevant for research in formal educational settings. The bibliography emphasizes but is not limited to contributions by anthropologists. One warning to the researcher considering a field study approach: a thoughtful perusal of this bibliography and a study of some of the resources identified here may do much to dispel the fieldwork "mystique." However, the process of transforming one's field notes and journals (the preferred anthropological terms) or one's data (the customary term among sociologists and educators) into a completed monograph remains elusive, at least to the extent that those who have completed successful field studies have been able to produce (or reveal) guidelines to assist others.

Precisely because it is time and energy consuming, fieldwork has an inherent problem in the ever present danger of its becoming an end in itself, resulting in volumes of notes that are never translated and organized into a form where they are available and useful to others. Perhaps the distinction between the successful fieldworker and the successful fieldworker/scholar is that the latter grapples constantly, agonizingly, and at least partially effectively with the relationship between the information he is gathering from those about him and the information he will himself generate and convey. Malinowski's useful concept of the "foreshadowed problem" in fieldwork might be expanded to include the fieldworker's own critical problem: how am I going to use the information I am acquiring?

The problem of being able to organize and synthesize is especially acute with the kind of unfocused note-taking sometimes associated with "doing" participant-observation. As a single methodology for studying formal educational settings, participant-observation has some other problems as well. It is virtually impossible not to be a participant-observer to some extent in a geographically distant cross-cultural setting, because one not only conducts research but must also conduct his life there. Conversely, it is very difficult to be an effective participant-observer in a school unless one selects among the limited number of statuses available for active participation. Furthermore, people do not usually "live" in schools. Indeed, one of the perennial criticisms of formalized education is that it so easily becomes divorced from real life. Thus the participant-observer in a school has limited opportunity to participate even tokenly in what is going on, and his own experience with the institution may preclude his being a keen observer in a setting where most everything is already familiar. Therefore, one may be well advised to draw widely from the diversity of research techniques suggested here and to de-emphasize reliance on participant-observation, a method developed for settings where there is opportunity for genuine involvement and the likelihood of finding patterns of behavior sufficiently different from one's own to enhance the possibility of recognizing them. Anthropologist Clyde Kluckhohn summed up the problem succinctly when he observed in Mirror for Man that it would hardly be fish who discovered the existence of water.

H.F.W.
March 1972

ADAMS, R. N. and J. J. PREISS

- 1960 Human organization research: field relations and techniques. Homewood, Illinois, Dorsey Press.

This excellent collection of readings is organized into two main sections. Part I is concerned with research relations (within the research group itself, between researcher and client, between researcher and informant) and with the behavior of researchers and informants. Part II deals with categories of data analysis and field research techniques. An extensive bibliography is included.

ARESBERG, C.

- 1952 The community study method. American Journal of Sociology 60: 109-124.

BABCHUK, NICHOLAS

- 1962 The role of the researcher as participant observer and participant-as-observer in the field situation. Human Organization 21:225-228.

BARNES, J. A.

- 1963 Some ethical problems in modern fieldwork. British Journal of Sociology 14:118-134.
- 1968 Networks and political process. In Marc J. Swartz, ed. Local level politics. Chicago, Aldine.

BEATTIE, JOHN

- 1965 Understanding an African kingdom: Bunyoro. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

The author is concerned with the scope of a field study from preparation to write-up. Drawing on his own experience he relates the methods for making contact with the area and with particular individuals. The focus is on the day-to-day activities of a field worker and the degree of involvement permissible to gain necessary acceptance and still maintain an objective stance. Modern fieldwork is "an attempt to understand, by close and direct contact, how a living community works, and what are the beliefs, norms and values by which it lives" (p. 56).

BECKER, HOWARD S.

- 1958 Problems of inference and proof in participant observation. American Sociological Review 23:652-660.

BECKER, HOWARD S. and BLANCE GEER

- 1957 Participant observation and interviewing: a comparison. Human Organization 16:28-35.

The initial statement in this article, that data gathered by participant observation "gives us more information about the

event under study than data gathered by any other sociological method," became highly controversial and began a series of rejoinders and affirmations between Becker and Geer and sociologist Martin Trow. Essentially, Becker and Geer state that the shortcoming of the interview is when it is used as the only source of information about events which have occurred elsewhere and are described by informants. Because the respondent in an interview may report information through "distorting lenses," the interviewer has no way of knowing whether that information is true or not (see Dean and Whyte in this bibliography). Participant observation makes it possible to check description against fact and make note of systematic distortions which interviews might not uncover.

In a rejoinder to this article, Martin Trow pointed out that the problem under investigation should dictate the method of investigation; participant-observation is not necessarily superior to interviewing. Reviewing how ordinary social life may inhibit the expression of sentiments, Trow points out the usefulness of the interview to obtain information which respondents might not volunteer while under group pressure. (See also Becker and Geer's answer to Trow in Human Organization 17, 1958.)

BECKER, HOWARD S., BLANCHE GEER, EVERETT C. HUGHES and ANSELM L. STRAUSS
1961. Boys in white: student culture in medical school. University of Chicago Press.

This book has become a recent "classic" not only in the field which it studied (medicine) but also in the study of occupations and careers, reference group theory, and the purposes for which it is selected here, field methodology. The research problem was to determine what effects medical school had upon medical students other than to give them a technical education. Field work was initiated upon a social-psychological theoretical framework. The authors note: "field notes depended in part upon the hypotheses we were attempting to explore, but our field notes also contain material not bearing on any hypothesis at the time, on the premise that we might later wish to construct hypotheses on points which we were not yet aware." Since the effect which the medical school had on its students was viewed as occurring within a social system, participant-observation was a highly useful tool in discerning the systematic relationships between many kinds of phenomena. In an attempt to overcome some of the methodological limitations of participant-observation, namely the lack of quantifiability and the supposed lack of data to support generalizations, the authors develop a tabular form for summarizing information on perspectives. This format contrasts the ratio of directed to volunteered statements, on the assumption that the higher the ratio of volunteered to directed statements and the higher the number of statements volunteered in the presence of others rather than to the observer alone, the greater the confidence that can be placed in the inferences drawn. Formal interviews were used in order to check some of the major conclusions against a new body of data gathered in different ways, and to gather certain types of data which could be readily quantified.

BENNETT, JOHN W.

- 1948 The study of culture: a survey of technique and methodology in field work. *American Sociological Review* 13:672-689.

Specific techniques and devices used for the collection of field data in intensive cultural studies are: (1) participant observation, (2) use of the local language, (3) the interview, (4) personal documents, (5) direct observation of behavior, (6) statistics, and (7) psychological tests. Each technique is briefly discussed in terms of its appropriateness for gathering specific information.

Three questions are explored with regard to methodology: (1) What problems are to be solved in the study? (2) Should the problems be formulated in advance of the actual study, or should they be developed as the study proceeds? (3) What kinds of logical principles, theories, and general concepts shall be used? All of the questions are discussed in terms of the interests of the investigator, the location of the community, and the particular scientific field in which the study is done. Included is a discussion of the nature of the conceptual tools used in describing and analyzing culture and a diagram of a descriptive cultural study.

- 1967 Survey research and sociocultural anthropology. In Charles Y. Glock, ed. *Survey research in the social sciences*. New York, Russell Sage Foundation.

A review of literature is presented under the topical headings community studies, urbanization studies, applied anthropology, national character, multi-ethnic field research, and socialization. Attention is also given to analytic comparison and systematic ethnography.

The choice of field methods is not an either/or proposition. An adequate field study is not conducted on the basis of a single technique, gathering a single kind of information, but rather different types of data require different approaches. Survey methods enable the investigator to define the nature and extent of the various cultural traits and permit an analysis of social differentiation, while intensive methods (observation, open-ended interviewing, etc.) permit the deepening of knowledge of the "social facts."

BERREMAN, GERALD O.

- 1962 Behind many masks: ethnography and impression management in a Himalayan village. Monograph #4, Society for Applied Anthropology.

BRAROE, N. W. and G. L. HICKS

- 1967 Observations on the mystique of anthropology. *Sociological Quarterly* 8:173-186 (Spring). (See also a rejoinder by A. S. Wilke, 9:400-405, Summer 1968.)

BROOKOVER, LINDA and KURT W. BACK

1966 Time sampling as a field technique. Human Organization 25:64-70.

BRUYN, SEVERYN T.

1966 The human perspective in sociology: the method of participant observation. Englewood Cliffs, Prentice Hall.

COLLIER, JOHN, JR.

1967 Visual anthropology: photography as a research method. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

DEAN, JOHN P.

1954 Participant observation and interviewing. In John T. Doby, ed. Introduction to social research. Stackpole Company.

DEAN, JOHN P. and WILLIAM F. WHYTE

1958 How do you know the informant is telling the truth? Human Organization 17:34-38.

The authors note the susceptibility of the interview technique to a variety of distortions. Informants' reports on subjective data must be viewed within the framework of ulterior motives, bias to spontaneity, and informants' desire to please the interviewer. Responses to objective data must consider implausibility, the unreliability of the informant as an accurate reporter, and knowledge of the informant's mental set. Taken in this context, it is the responsibility of the interviewer not just to ask questions, but to recognize the possible distortions and to account for them in his inference.

DOLLARD, JOHN

1935 Criteria for the life history. Yale University Press.

EGGAN, FRED

1954 Social Anthropology and the method of controlled comparison. American Anthropologist 56:743-760.

FILSTEAD, WILLIAM H., ed.

1970 Qualitative methodology. Chicago, Markham Publishing Company. A collection of readings that includes several of the articles reported separately in this bibliography.

FOSTER, GEORGE M.

1969 Applied anthropology. Boston, Little, Brown and Company. (See Chapter 3, The Anthropologist's Methodology.)

FRAKE, C. O.

1962 The ethnographic study of cognitive systems. In Thomas Gladwin and W. C. Sturtevant, eds. Anthropology and human behavior. Anthropological Society of Washington.

FREILICH, MORRIS, ed.

- 1970 Marginal natives: anthropologists at work. New York, Harper and Row. (A critical and useful review of this collection of reports by a number of fieldworkers appears in American Anthropologist 73:1439-1441, December 1971.)

GLASER, BARNEY G. and ANSELM STRAUSS

- 1967 The discovery of grounded theory: strategies for qualitative research. Chicago, Aldine.

The authors feel that sociologists have been preoccupied with the verification of theory rather than the generation of theory, and that this process has tended to stultify research. They argue the case for an inductive approach whereby theory is derived from data. The heart of grounded theory revolves around two basic concepts: comparative analysis and theoretical sampling. Although they stress the importance of qualitative research, quantitative research is not ignored. Once the theory is generated, the nature of the problem should dictate whether qualifying or quantifying procedures should be used to further test that theory. The authors do not feel that the role of grounded qualitative research is to act as a "preliminary providing of categories to use in the ensuing quantitative research." In many instances, both forms of data are necessary as mutual verification and as different forms of data on the same subject.

GOLD, RAYMOND L.

- 1958 Roles in sociological field observations. Social Forces 36: 217-223.

Gold offers a four-fold typology of field observations and notes the advantages and disadvantages of each. In essence, Gold has proposed a "research design" for observation in which the threats to each "design" can be anticipated beforehand. Gold's typology concerns a continuum from complete participant to complete observer, with the participant-as-observer and observer-as-participant lying between the extremes.

GUSSOW, ZACHARY

- 1964 The observer-observed relationship as information about structure in small-group research. Psychiatry 27:230-247.

GUTKIND, PETER C. W.

- 1969 The social researcher in the context of African national development: reflections on an encounter. In Frances Henry and Satish Saberwal, eds., Stress and response in fieldwork. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

HALL, E. T.

- 1963 A system for the notation of proxemic behavior. American Anthropologist 65:1003-1026.

HAMMOND, PHILLIP E., ed.

- 1964 Sociologists at work: essays on the craft of social research. New York, Basic Books.

HANNA, W. J.

- 1965 Image-making in field research -- some tactical and ethical problems of research in tropical Africa. American Behavioral Scientist 9:15-20.

HENRY, JULES

- 1960 A cross-cultural outline of education. Current Anthropology 1:267-305. (See also More on cross-cultural education, Current Anthropology 2 (1961):255ff.) Henry's outline suffers occasionally for not developing major points in sufficient depth and more often for suggesting attention to details that seem tangential to the educational process. No one has yet published a better outline, however. Henry's own development of many of the major points makes this a valuable contribution to the literature on cross-cultural studies of education as well as a gallant effort at identifying critical aspects for consideration by anthropological field workers interested in education as a formal and social process.

HERSKOVITS, MELVILLE J.

- 1954 Some problems of method in ethnography. In Robert F. Spencer, ed. Method and perspective in anthropology. Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press.

A succinct statement of methodology. Herskovits makes explicit the difference of utilizing field methods within a societal context as opposed to a cultural context. He points out that there is no single method as there is no single problem. Acknowledging the trend toward increased quantification in ethnography, he notes the vagaries of cultural differences which sometime mitigate against quantification.

HOMANS, GEORGE C.

- 1950 The human group. New York, Harcourt Brace and Co.

This book is based on five field studies made by different researchers. Homans analyzes both the methodologies and the results of the five studies, although the emphasis is on analysis and much of the methodological critique is implicit.

HYMAN, HERBERT, et al.

- 1954 Interviewing in social research. University of Chicago Press.

JACOBS, GLENN, ed.

- 1970 The participant observer. New York, George Braziller. (Also available in paperback.)

Because the articles here all deal with research in urban settings, including some institutionalized ones, the book

may be helpful to researchers in education. It may be of interest to point out that anthropologist T. R. Williams, reviewing the book in the American Anthropologist (Vol. 73, No. 6, December 1971, pp. 1444-1445) noted that only one article (Liebow's) actually discusses participant observation as a research method. Williams states, "The work suffers from the editor's misperception of the differences between participant observation as a formal method of gathering data and contextual analysis as a method of analyzing and presenting data."

JANES, R. W.

- 1961 A note on phases of the community role of the participant-observer. American Sociological Review 26:446-450.

KABERRY, PHYLLIS

- 1957 Malinowski's contribution to fieldwork methods and the writing of ethnography. In Raymond Firth, ed. Man and culture: an evaluation of the work of Bronislaw Malinowski. London, Routledge and Kegan Paul.

KHLEIF, BUD B.

- 1971 The school as a small society. In Murray Wax, et al., eds. Anthropological perspectives on education. New York, Basic Books.

KIMBALL, SOLON T.

- 1955 The method of natural history and educational research. In George D. Spindler, ed. Education and anthropology. Stanford University Press.

KINSEY, ALFRED, C., WARDELL B. POMEROY, and CLYDE E. MARTIN

- 1948 Interviewing. In Sexual behavior in the human male. Philadelphia, W.B. Saunders Company.

Particular attention is given here to methodological problems of making contacts, establishing rapport, and keeping confidences. Numerous technical devices are discussed to provide validity and reliability to information gathered in an interview. The authors observe: "Learning how to meet people of all ranks and levels, establishing rapport, sympathetically comprehending the significance of things as others view them, learning to accept their attitudes and activities without moral, social or esthetic evaluation, being interested in people as they are and not as someone else would have them, learning to see the reasonable bases of what at first glance may appear to be most unreasonable behavior, developing a capacity to like all kinds of people and thus to win their esteem--these are the elements to be mastered by one who would gather human statistics."

KLUCKHOHN, CLYDE

- 1947 The personal document in anthropological science. In Lewis Gottschalk, Clyde Kluckhohn, and Robert Angell, eds. The use of personal documents in history, anthropology, and sociology, part II. New York, Social Science Research Council.

"The most general question but one of crucial importance is: what sort of Hopi or Navaho or Kwakiutl will tell his life story to a white man?" (p. 99). Emphasis is directed to the need for a description of the informant's moods, mannerisms, and the context in which the interview is taking place. A general outline for presenting materials is provided to systematize the format for life histories in general. "The life history is, after all, the best available method of describing the continuity of human personality within a particular culture, and of making vivid the fact that different personalities, even in the same society, have different continuities" (p. 162).

KLUCKHOHN, FLORENCE R.

1940 The participant observer technique in small communities. *American Journal of Sociology* 46:331-343.

In this frequently cited article, the author states that the purpose of participant observation is to reduce an outsider's distortion of community behavior to a minimum. She notes some disadvantages in participant observation: (1) the role assumed may limit the range of observation, (2) one must sacrifice a certain type of uniformity in data, and (3) it may be difficult to maintain objectivity. She concludes that, "the investigator, forced to analyze his own roles, is, on the one hand, less misled by the myth of complete objectivity in social research and, on the other hand, more consciously aware of his own biases" (p. 343).

KROEBER, A. L.

1953 *Anthropology today*. University of Chicago Press.

In a section on methodology, Kroeber presents a series of articles concerned with the applicability of differing techniques with field methodology. One of these articles, "Psychological Techniques: Projective Tests in Field Work," by Henry and Spiro is concerned with the use of such devices as Rorschach, Thematic Apperception, and free drawings in conjunction with field work. These projective tests have been used, according to the authors, because they generally measure the personality as a whole, are not "culture bound," enable the investigator to gain data from larger numbers of persons, and are short and easy to administer.

A second relevant statement is found in Oscar Lewis' "Controls and Experiments in Field Work." Controls in field work fall under a variety of categories, one of which is the training of the observer to be cognizant of biases and values. Additional controls can be instituted through sampling procedures, photography, relevant economic scales, and survey techniques. Lewis notes that one of the most useful procedures to increase the reliability of anthropological field research is the restudy procedure, somewhat similar to the "test-retest" method in experimental studies.

LANGNESS, L. L.

- 1965 The life history in anthropological science. New York, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.

The life history is a valuable tool for gaining psychological insight into individuals when more than a descriptive account is desired. It is important to keep a detailed record of the context of an interview. The reliability of sampled data may be checked by (1) observation, (2) checking the account of one informant against another, and (3) asking the same questions of the same informant repeatedly over a long period of time. The personality of the investigator can play an important role in the kinds of material that will be gathered and in what subsequently happens to them. "A common pool of comparable life history data from several disciplines as well as from all cultures would provide a staggering amount of valuable data in a relatively short time, data of the most basic kind, from which could be easily extracted information pertaining to common as well as specialized interests."

LEACOCK, ELEANOR B.

- 1971 Theoretical and methodological problems in the study of schools. In Murray Wax, et al., eds. Anthropological perspectives on education. New York, Basic Books.

LEWIS, OSCAR

- 1953 Controls and experiments in field work. In A. L. Kroeber, ed. Anthropology today. University of Chicago Press. (See annotation for Kroeber.)

LUTZ, FRANK W. and LAWRENCE IANNACONE

- 1969 Understanding educational organizations: a field study approach. Columbus, Ohio, Charles Merrill.

The introduction to this book states that the book is "highly theoretical, but also a how-to-do-it book." The book is divided into one section on power relationships within the school organization and another on field study methodology within the school as a formal organization. The authors make a strong case for the use of a theoretical base in field methodology, relying heavily upon Malinowski's now classic statement that "pre-conceived ideas are pernicious in any scientific work but fore-shadowed problems are first revealed to the observer by his theoretical studies." The authors have drawn heavily from the works of many others who have practiced field methodology, thus this book provides a succinct review of many of these studies and incorporates them into the methodology required for the study of educational organizations.

MALINOWSKI, BRONISLAW

- 1922 Argonauts of the western Pacific. New York, George Routledge and Sons, Ltd.

Malinowski's discussion of fieldwork is a classic in anthropology. He states, "The first and basic ideal of ethnographic fieldwork is to give a clear and firm outline of the social constitution, and disentangle the laws and regularities of all cultural phenomena from the irrelevances." Each phenomenon ought to be studied through the broadest range possible of its concrete manifestations by an exhaustive survey of detailed examples. The goal of the ethnographer is "to grasp the natives' point of view, his relation to life, to realize his vision of his world."

McCALL, GEORGE J. and J. L. SIMMONS

1969 Issues in participant observation: a text and reader. Reading, Massachusetts, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company.

MERTON, ROBERT

1947 Selected problems of fieldwork in the planned community. American Sociological Review 12:304-317.

MERTON, R. K., MARJORIE FISKE and PATRICIA L. KENDALL

1956 The focused interview. New York, The Free Press.

MILLER, DELBERT C.

1964 Handbook of research design and social measurement. New York, David McKay Company, Inc.

Before a neophyte considers making a field study, he might read Miller's "cookbook." Miller discusses in detail the pros and cons of different types of studies. He also discusses the application of methodology to different situations. This monograph contains an excellent annotated bibliography describing various types of studies and the researchers who made them.

MILLER, FRANK B.

1954 Resistentialism in applied social research. Human Organization 12:5-8.

The point of this article is to show that in some cases preconceived research designs may not serve useful purposes, and in fact may lead to a preoccupation with the hypothesis over the organization being studied. Quite often, the "idiosyncracies of the individual organization in terms of tradition, personnel and structure, not to mention the physicals of the situation in sub-units of the organization, make this a haphazard approach." The author concludes that while organizational research does not have to stop at the case level, the premature narrowing of variables to be studied is precluded by a broad initial approach.

MILLS, THEODORE M.

1967 The observer, the experimenter and the group. Social Problems 14: 373-381.

MITCHELL, J. CLYDE

- 1966 Theoretical orientations in African urban studies. In Michael Banton, ed. The social anthropology of complex societies. Association of Social Anthropologists Monograph Number 4. London, Tavistock.

A discussion of network analyses, like that of Barnes (1968).

MOORE, F. W., ed.

- 1960 Readings in cross-cultural methodology. New Haven, Connecticut, Human Relations Area Files Press.

MURDOCK, GEORGE P.

- 1961 Outline of cultural materials. New Haven, Connecticut, Human Relations Area Files, Inc.

The outline consists of categories of elements of culture, each broken into its major facets, with a brief description of accompanying conditions. Though not designed as a field manual, the Outline may be a useful aid in the field. It calls attention to a wide range of cultural, social, and background phenomena, and thus can provide leads for inquiry that might otherwise be overlooked. It may also provide a useful system for classification of field notes.

NAROLL, RAOUL

- 1962 Data quality control. New York, The Free Press.

NAROLL, RAOUL and RONALD COHEN, eds.

- 1970 A handbook of method in cultural anthropology. Garden City, New York, The Natural History Press. (Published for the American Museum of Natural History.)

The chapters selected for this compendium (1017 pages) on methodology reflect the intent of the editors to press toward theory-testing and theory-construction rather than the analysis and presentation of ethnographic facts. Their concern is with problems that tend to promote explanation applicable across cultures. A long and useful section devoted to aspects of the field work process emphasizes contributions reflective of the trend toward a more rigorous methodology--research and experimental design, sampling and survey research in fieldwork--as well as the emphasis throughout the entire book on comparative and cross-cultural method.

NASH, DENNISON

- 1963 The ethnologist as stranger: an essay in the sociology of knowledge. Southwestern Journal of Anthropology 19:149-167.

OLSON, JOHN A.

- 1969 Mapping: a method for organizing data about your school attendance area. Oregon School Study Council Bulletin, Volume 12 (No. 7).
- 1970 Ecological-demographic considerations for educational planning: a micro-study of a suburban elementary school attendance area. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, College of Education, University of Oregon.

Standard procedure in ethnographic research includes mapping, a dimension often ignored in research in contemporary settings. Olson's articles call attention to the uses of mapping as a way not only to collect information but to organize it. The longer study (1970) provides an ecological-demographic model for studying a school's "community" and presents a case study as illustration.

PELTO, PERTTI J.

1970 Anthropological research - the structure of inquiry. New York, Harper and Row.

POWDERMAKER, HORTENSE

1966 Stranger and friend: the way of an anthropologist. New York, W. W. Norton.

Powdermaker provides an excellent and highly readable account of the methods of the cultural anthropologist by reviewing her own professional career in terms of her four major fieldwork experiences.

READ, KENNETH E.

1965 The high valley. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons.

Anthropologist Read's highly personable account of fieldwork in the New Guinea Highlands hardly provides a model for participant-observation in schools. The purpose of including the books here is to illustrate what anthropologists mean by participant-observation and thus to suggest, by implicit contrast, how unlikely one is to achieve a comparable level of involvement studying in formal educational settings.

ROBSON, B. T.

1969 Urban analysis. Cambridge, The University Press.

This book is a study of the applications of human ecology through the measurement of multivariate analysis toward attitudes regarding education. Although the field study was conducted within a British township, it would appear to be easily equated to the American educational system. A thoughtful study of the applications of human ecology to educational environments, and a "must" for those interested in school-community studies and relationships. Short but selected bibliography.

ROETHLISBERGER, F. J. and WILLIAM J. DICKSON

1940 Management and the worker. Harvard University Press.

This field study is the prototype of systematic management studies in the United States. The authors explain in detail their approach and problems of observation in the study. Although somewhat dated, few studies of this kind have been so detailed in their observation and explanation of methodology. Some scattered annotated footnotes, but no formal bibliography.

ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

- 1951 Notes and queries on anthropology. Sixth edition. London, Routledge and Kegan Paul, Ltd.

This volume continues to serve as the ethnographer's Bible. The reference is too important to ignore but probably more useful to fieldwork of broad scope in traditional settings than in field studies in formal education.

SCHUSKY, ERNEST L.

- 1965 Manual for kinship analysis. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

Ethnographers have customarily attended to collecting genealogical data in the course of their fieldwork, and their procedures for doing so are rather unique to anthropology. Inclusion of this little manual in the bibliography may also help to dramatize the difference between traditional fieldwork and a field study conducted in schools. At the same time, the few researchers who have included questions about kin ties in schools have usually been supervised with the extent and importance of personal networks operating within formal institutions.

SCHWARTZ, MORRIS S. and CHARLOTTE G. SCHWARTZ

- 1955 Problems in participant observation. American Journal of Sociology 60:343-353.

Participant observation is described as the process of registering, interpreting, and recording. The authors see two primary sources of distortion of information. One is the anxiety in the observer which occurs while he is collecting data. The second may be seen as bias which operates to shape what the observer sees as well as how he sees it. The greatest defense against the intrusion of bias is the recognition of the bias and exploration into its ramifications, and a recognition that such a search is a never-ending process.

SCOTT, W. RICHARD

- 1963 Fieldwork in a formal organization: some dilemmas in the role of observer. Human Organization 22:162-168.

In this article, Scott discusses the myriad problems confronting an observer in organizational observation. He emphasizes that it is important for the observer who is studying a fairly restrictive group to remain as impartial as possible in relation to the members of that group, although he also notes that complete neutrality on all issues is unnecessary and in fact undesirable. Scott also discusses the "bias-correcting actions of workers" (similar to Becker's tabulation procedure): if a respondent makes a statement in the presence of other members of the group, they will tend to correct him if that statement is in error.

- 1965 Field method in the study of organizations. In James March, ed. Handbook of organizations. New York, Rand McNally.

Scott's review is divided into three sections: Special Characteristics of Field Studies in Organizations; Varieties of Field Research; and Types of Data and Techniques of Data Collection. The use of sampling procedures within the field method context has always posed sticky problems for researchers. Scott reviews the use of saturation and dense samples, but also notes that rigid sampling procedures may violate the very nature of the field approach, namely to "organize social data so as to preserve the unitary character of the social object being studied." Scott's article presents a succinct and comprehensive overview of the application of field methodology to the study of any organization. While it presents no "answer," it does offer a wide variety of possibilities which may help to strengthen the conclusions reached.

SHERIF, MUZAFER and CAROLYN SHERIF

- 1968 Relationship in the social sciences. Chicago, Aldine. (See particularly the chapter by Raymond W. Mack.)

SINDELL, PETER S.

- 1969 Anthropological approaches to the study of education. Review of Educational Research 39:593-605.

SJOBERG, GIDEON, ed.

- 1967 Ethics, politics, and social research. Cambridge, Massachusetts, Schenkman Publishing Company. (Reviewed in American Anthropologist 71:796-798, August 1969.)

SMITH, LOUIS M.

- 1967 The micro-ethnography of the classroom. Psychology in the Schools 4:216-221.

SPENCER, R. F., ed.

- 1954 Method and perspective in anthropology. Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press.

SPINDLER, GEORGE D., ed.

- 1971 Being an anthropologist: fieldwork in eleven cultures. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

n.d. Education and cultural process: approaches to an anthropology of education. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston. (See especially the section on methods.) Forthcoming.

SPIRO, MELFORD E.

- 1965 Context and meaning in cultural anthropology. New York, The Free Press.

STRICKLAND, DONALD A. and LESTER E. SCHLESINGER

- 1969 Lurking as a research method. Human Organization 28:248-250.

VIDICH, ARTHUR J.

- 1955 Participant observation and the collection and interpretation of data. *American Journal of Sociology* 60:354-360.

VIDICH, ARTHUR J. and JOSEPH BENSMAN

- 1954 The validity of field data. *Human Organization* 13:20-27.

Vidich and Bensman note that sources of error in informant response occur because of: (1) purposeful intent, (2) temporary role of the respondent, (3) psychology of the respondent, and (4) involuntary error. They note that the field worker must not be deceived by surface meanings nor be too anxious to confirm his theories. The value of the field interview is its potential ability to discover the myriad of situational factors which enter into any one response, thus allowing the observer the opportunity to note the validity of some responses over others. Combined with survey techniques, the distortions due to impressionism can hopefully be avoided.

VIDICH, ARTHUR J., JOSEPH BENSMAN, and MAURICE R. STEIN

- 1971 *Reflections on community studies*. New York, Harper Torchbooks.

VIDICH, ARTHUR J. and GILBERT SHAPIRO

- 1955 A comparison of participant observation and survey data. *American Sociological Review* 20:28-33.

In this comparative study the field worker provided eleven descriptive groupings of prestige, ranging from "non-entities" to those highest in money, prestige, and political control. The survey consisted of five sociometric-type queries which yielded a significant numerical correspondence of results to those obtained by the field worker. The authors conclude that what the survey method gains in representative coverage of a population is probably of no greater methodological significance than the increased depth of understanding and interpretation possible with participant observation techniques. The two techniques are not competitive, but in the well-conducted community study will be complementary. The survey provides representative data which are given meaning by the anthropological observer.

WAX, ROSALIE H.

- 1971 *Doing fieldwork: warnings and advice*. University of Chicago Press.

WEBB, EUGENE J., DONALD T. CAMPBELL, RICHARD D. SCHWARTZ and LEE SECHREST

- 1966 *Unobtrusive measures: a survey of unconventional and non-reactive measures for social research*. New York, Rand McNally.

WEICK, KARL E.

- 1968 Systematic observational methods. In Gardner Lindzey and Elliott Aronson, eds. *Handbook of social psychology*. Reading, Massachusetts, Addison-Wesley.

WHITING, J. W. M.

- 1968 Methods and problems in cross-cultural research. In Gardner Lindzey and Elliott Aronson, eds. Handbook of social psychology. Reading, Massachusetts, Addison-Wesley.

WHITING, J. W. M., et al.

- 1966 Field guide for a study of socialization. New York, John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

The problems of devising a theory and method prior to going into the field are revealed here through the reactions of the field workers. Numerous points are made regarding the modifications necessary to fit particulars into the framework of the culture under study. Of special interest are the problems of selection and interviewing of informants.

WHYTE, WILLIAM FOOTE

- 1953 Interviewing for organizational research. Human Organization 12:15-22.

- 1955 Street corner society. University of Chicago Press. (Second edition)

See the author's discussion of the fieldwork for this study written especially for this edition.

WILLIAMS, THOMAS RHYS

- 1966 Field methods in the study of culture. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

WOLCOTT, HARRY F.

- 1968 Methodology: the observer and the observed. Eugene, Oregon, Center for the Advanced Study of Educational Administration. Mimeograph, 36 pp. (See also "A Principal Investigator in Search of a Principal," Chapter I in The man in the principal's office: an ethnography. New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, forthcoming.)

- 1970 An ethnographic approach to the study of school administrators. Human Organization 29:115-122. (Also reprinted in Albert H. Yee, ed. Social interaction in educational settings. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall 1971.)

- 1971 Handle with care: necessary precautions in the anthropology of schools. In Murray Wax, et al., eds. Anthropological perspectives on education. New York, Basic Books.

- 1972 Feedback influences on fieldwork, or, a funny thing happened on the way to the beer garden. Mimeograph, Center for the Advanced Study of Educational Administration, University of Oregon.

ZELDITCH, MORRIS, JR.

1962 Some methodological problems of field studies. American Journal of Sociology 67:566-576.

Three strategies are fundamental to a field study according to the criteria established here: enumeration to document frequency data; participant observation to describe incidents; and informant interviewing to learn institutionalized norms and statuses. Criteria according to which the "goodness" of a procedure may be defined are: (1) informational adequacy, meaning accuracy, precision, and completeness of data, and (2) efficiency, meaning cost per added input of information.

This article emphasizes the multi-faceted but nonetheless structured approach of a field study and the unique contribution made possible by utilizing each of the three strategies described. The perspective is distinctly sociological, providing both a useful contrast with many of the anthropological accounts of "fieldwork" cited throughout this bibliography and an extremely relevant guide for embarking upon research in a formal institution like a school.